Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A In a client device, a method comprising:

dynamically obtaining sending, by the client device a client alert module

integrated with a client device, a request within an options field of a network bootstrap

protocol packet for at least one alert detection parameter and an alert destination address

from a first server;

receiving, by the client alert module, the requested alert detection parameters and alert destination address within the options field of a network bootstrap protocol packet;

using a received alert detection parameter to detect alerts during and after boot-up of the client device;

sending, by the client alert module, information regarding detected alerts to a remote alert proxy at the alert destination address;

proxy with which to configure the client device in response to the detected alert; and

dynamically obtaining configuration data from a remote proxy for alert detection

using the at least one obtained alert detection parameter; and

automatically configuring the client device using the configuration data obtained from the <u>remote alert</u> proxy for alert detection to enable the client device to detect alerts.

- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the client <u>alert</u> module <u>device</u> is enabled to detect alerts while <u>the client device is</u> in a reduced functional state.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the reduced functional state includes an operating system unavailable state.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first-server operates according to a network bootstrap protocol is dynamic host control protocol (DHCP).
 - 6-7. (Canceled)
- 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein dynamically obtaining by the client <u>alert module</u> device the at least one alert detection parameter further comprises dynamically obtaining at least one of an alert destination address, a watchdog interval, and or a heartbeat interval.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim § 1, wherein the alert destination address uniquely identifies the remote alert proxy on a network.

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- 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the configuration data is dynamically obtained from a remote alert proxy through a remote management and control protocol (RMCP).
- receiving, by a proxy for alert detection, a configuration data request information regarding a detected alert in a remote from a client device, the configuration data request information being submitted by a client alert module integrated with the client device using at least one alert detection parameter dynamically obtained alert detection parameter from the options field of a network bootstrap protocol packet; and

providing the requested configuration data to the client <u>alert module</u> device in response to the detected alert to enable the client device to be automatically configured and to detect alert events.

- 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one dynamically obtained alert detection parameter is dynamically obtained from a second server.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the second server operates according to a network bootstrap protocol is dynamic host control protocol (DHCP).

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- 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one dynamically obtained alert detection parameter includes at least one of a dynamically obtained alert destination address, a watchdog interval, and a heartbeat interval.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the dynamically obtained alert destination address uniquely identifies the first server on a network.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the requested configuration data is provided to the client alert module device through a remote management and control protocol (RMCP).
 - 17. (Canceled)
- 18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47 11, wherein the client alert module device is enabled to detect alerts independent from whether an operating system is operable on the client device.
 - 19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising logic to:

dynamically obtain send a request within an options field of a network bootstrap

protocol packet for at least one alert detection parameter for alert detection in a client

device as well as an alert destination address from a first server;

receive the requested alert detection parameters and alert destination address within the options field of a network bootstrap protocol packet;

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detect alerts in the client device using an obtained alert detection parameter;

dynamically obtain configuration data from a remote alert proxy at the alert

destination address for alert detection using the at least one obtained alert detection

parameter with which to configure the client device in response to the detected alert; and configure the apparatus client device using the configuration data obtained from the remote alert proxy for alert detection to enable the apparatus to detect alerts.

- 20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the at least one obtained alert detection parameter includes at least one of an alert destination address, a watchdog interval, and or a heartbeat interval.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the logic configures the apparatus to:

detect alerts while the apparatus <u>client device</u> is in an operating system unavailable state.

22 (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising a machine readable medium having a plurality of machine readable instructions stored thereon, wherein when the instructions are executed by a processor, the instructions subscribe the processor to:

dynamically obtain send a request within the options field of a network bootstrap

protocol packet for at least one alert detection parameter for alert detection in a client

device as well as an alert destination address from a first server;

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receive the requested alert detection parameters and alert destination address within the options field of a network bootstrap protocol packet;

detect alerts in the client device using an obtained alert detection parameter;

dynamically obtain configuration data from a remote alert proxy at the alert

destination address for alert detection using the at least one obtained alert detection

parameter with which to configure the client device in response to the detected alert; and

configure a the client device containing the processor to detect alerts using the

configuration data obtained from the proxy for alert detection using the configuration

data obtained from the remote alert proxy.

- 23. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the instructions further subscribe the processor to configure the device to:

 detect alerts while the <u>client</u> device is in a reduced functional state.
- 24. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the at least one obtained alert detection parameter includes at least one of an alert destination address, a watchdog interval, and or a heartbeat interval.

25-31. (Canceled)

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the network bootstrap protocol is Dynamic Host Control Protocol (DHCP).

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33. (New) The article of claim 22 wherein the network bootstrap protocol is Dynamic Host Control Protocol (DHCP).